

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

*For consideration at the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on
July 15, 2026*

2. Investigating Traffic & Safety Mitigations & Solutions at Vancouver Firehalls

Submitted by: Councillor Kirby-Yung

WHEREAS

1. Traffic and resident safety at and near Vancouver firehalls has been identified as a concern for both firefighters and the general public;
2. Firehalls are busy places where fire trucks are continually coming and going in responding to emergency calls, as well as conducting training and other activities;
3. Vancouver firehalls are located in increasingly dense and populated urban areas where members of the public including seniors, families and residents are continually passing by;
4. Signage, cross-hatching and lighting can serve as safety supports to help avoid unwanted interactions or collisions between fire apparatus, firefighters and the public including pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. These safety measures are utilized in other municipalities but lacking in Vancouver;
5. Poles at a number of Vancouver firehalls have been informally patched up in an effort to close off diesel exhaust between apparatus bays and other areas where firefighters spend time coming on shift between calls;
6. Exposure to diesel exhaust and contaminants from truck exhaust is a health concern for firefighters, particularly for these vulnerable workers who are exposed to harmful carcinogens in the course of their job fighting fires;
7. Vancouver values the health and wellness of its firefighters and was proudly the first to invest in PFAS free gear to help counter occupational cancer due to exposure to harmful compounds; and
8. Vancouver has invested in several electric fire truck apparatus, but functionality is not such that diesel equipment can be fully replaced at the current time.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to engage with Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services leadership and IAFF18 to review concerns and report back on options to implement traffic markings such as cross-hatching and other measures like lighting and cautionary signage at Vancouver firehalls;

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to engage with Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services leadership and IAFF18 to identify a pilot implementation firehalls for

traffic safety improvements to be included in the upcoming 2027-2030 Capital Plan, and include an allocation to support that work.

- B. THAT Council direct staff to investigate diesel exhaust concerns including relation to improperly stopped up pole equipment at Vancouver firehalls and report back to Council on the matter and any potential related facility maintenance or mitigation opportunities.

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